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18 July 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Executive ✓  
General Counsel  
Assistant Director, ORE

SUBJECT: State's Staff Study of 1 May 1950 on Production  
of National Intelligence, transmitted by Mr. Webb's  
letter of 7 July 1950

REFERENCE: (a) COAPS Preliminary Comments of 13 July  
(b) COAPS Memorandum of 17 July on the same subject

1. Reference (b) is cancelled because the Director wishes to submit at this time, in reply to Mr. Webb's letter, more detailed comments to the effect that his Staff Study points up the divergent opinions so long prevalent here of:

- a. a responsible central intelligence agency versus
- b. a responsible committee of Intelligence Chiefs  
(British System)

The DCI favors the strong central agency, so wishes to submit a proposed NSC directive along these lines in lieu of the Staff Study proposal, advocating the strong authoritative committee.

2. We suggest a meeting on the enclosures in a couple of days or the first of the week — as soon as you are ready — and we promise to bombard you no more with our proposals (on this subject).

3. There is an IAC meeting this Friday afternoon so we should not meet then. The Staff Study will NOT be raised then by the DCI, but it is a general meeting so the other members are liable to bring up almost anything in addition to Critical Objectives Priorities and Scientific Reports from HICOG.

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PRESCOTT CHILDS, Chief  
Coordination, Operations  
and Policy Staff

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Enclosure

Draft reply to Mr. Webb's letter

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